

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 OES-03 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135953

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: AIRBORNE ACOUSTIC SURVEY

1. THE NAVAL OCEANGRAPHIC OFFICE (NAVOCEANO) IS PLANNING AN AIRBORNE ACOUSTIC SURVEY, OUTPOST SEASCAN 21-75, IN AND ADJACENT TO AMUKUTA, AMCHITA, KOREAN AND TSUGARU STRAITS FROM 15 JULY TO 30 AUGUST 1975. THE OBJECTIVE OF THESE SURVEYS, IN RESPONSE TO FLEET REQUIREMENTS, IS TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA WHICH WILL DEFINE THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF AMBIENT NOISE LEVELS AND PROPAGATION LOSS VERSUS RANGE IN THE STRAITS AND THE APPROACHES THERETO. SPECIFIC MEASUREMENTS ARE:

(1) TRANSMISSION LOSS AS A FUNCTION OF FREQUENCY AND RANGE,

(2) AMBIENT NOISE AS A FUNCTION OF FREQUENCY AS DETERMINED

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FOR HYDROPHONE DEPTHS OF 60 AND 300 FEETAND,

(3) THERMAL STRUCTURE OF THE WATER COLUMN FROM SURFACE TO A DEPTH OF 1000 FEET.

2. THE OPERATION CALLS FOR SIX FLIGHTS IN THE AREA OF THE KOREAN STRAIT AND THREE FLIGHTS IN THE AREA OF THE TSUGARU STRAIT. TWO AIRCRAFT WILL BE USED ON ALL FLIGHTS. THE PROJECT BIRDEYE AIRCRAFT FROM VXN-8 OF NAS PATUXENT RIVER WILL BE JOINED BY A FLEET AIRCRAFT FROM IWAKUNI. FOR THE

PORTION OF THE PROJECT IN THE KOREAN STRAITS, WAKUNI

WILL BE THE PRIMARY AIRFIELD WHILE MISAWA WILL BE THE PRIMARY AIRFIELD FOR THE TSUGARU STRAITS PORTION OF THE PROJECT. THE BIRDEYE AIRCRAFT WILL SERVE AS THE RECEIVING AIRCRAFT AND THE FLEET AIRCRAFT WILL ACT AS THE

SOURCE AIRCRAFT ON TRANSMISSION LOSS RUNS AND FOR BUOY LOCATION AND SHIP SURVEILLANCE ON AMBIENT NOISE FLIGHTS. THE TRANSMISSION LOSS RUNS WILL CONSIST OF THE PLACEMENT OF A PATTERN OF SONOBUOYS IN THE AREA. THE SOURCE AIRCRAFT WILL THEN DROP SIGNALS UNDERWATER SOUND (SUS) CHARGES. IN THE AMBIENT NOISE PROJECTS SONOBUOYS WILL BE DEPLOYED AND MONITORED BY THE BIRDEYE AIRCRAFT WHILE THE FLEET AIRCRAFT RECORDS THE LOCATION OF SURFACE SHIPPING. THE SONOBUOYS TO BE UTILIZED WILL FLOAT FOR A MAXIMUM OF 20 HOURS, ARE 5 FEET LONG WITH 1.5 FEET ABOVE THE WATER. ALL SUS WILL BE DETONATED AT A DEPTH OF 60 OR 800 FEET, IN OPEN SEA AREAS WELL CLEAR OF SHIPPING. CHARTER AND BUOY LOCATION ARE BEING POUCHED SEPARATELY.

3. THE SCIENTIFIC PARTY WILL CONSIST OF FIVE OCEANOGRAPHERS FROM NAVOCEANO AND ONE ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN PLUS THE FLIGHT CREWS. ALL OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED OUTSIDE OF CLAIMED TERRITORIAL WATERS. HOWEVER, THE AIRCRAFT MAY BE REQUIRED TO PENETRATE TERRITORIAL AIRSPACE WHILE CONDUCTING THESE OPERATIONS. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU INFORM GOJ AND GROK OF THIS PROJECT AND INSURE THAT THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION THERETO. FLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUESTS WILL BE SUBMITTED SEPARATELY. KISSINGER
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